

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 10311 181436Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CU-05 OMB-01 CIEP-03

NSCE-00 DRC-01 /121 W

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R 170754Z SEP 74 ZDK

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2244

INFO USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: CANTON OPERA REFORM "BESET WITH TROUBLES"

1. CANTON RADIO (SEPTEMBER 15) BROADCAST A NAN FANG JIH PAO EDITORIAL WHICH DECLARED THAT REFORM OF CANTONESE OPERA WAS "BESET WITH TROUBLES." THE BROADCAST CITED "INTERFERENCE AND SABOTAGE FROM LIN PIAO'S REVISIONIST LINE" FOR OBSTRUCTING THE ATTEMPT TO POPULARIZE AND ADAPT THE REVOLUTIONARY MODEL OPERAS TO LOCAL FORMS. LEADING COMRADES WERE ALSO CRITICIZED FOR NOT UNDERSTANDING OR GRASPING FIRMLY ENOUGH THE LITERATURE AND ART STRUGGLE, RESULTING IN A SITUATION WHERE "PROGRESS OF OUR PROVINCE'S REVOLUTION IN LITERATURE AND ART IS SLOW...."

2. INTERESTINGLY THE BROADCAST COMES IN THE WAKE OF A MONTH-LONG LITEATURE AND ART FESTIVAL WHICH DREW TO A CLOSE IN PEKING ON SEPTEMBER 11. THE PEKING FESTIVAL HAD PARTICULARLY STRESSED THAT IT SREPERTOIRE, DRAWN FROM SHANGHAI, KWANGSI, HANAN AND LIAONING, WAS A SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLE OF LOCAL VERNACULAR ADAPTATION OF MODEL REVOLUTIONARY WORKS. IN ADDITION A SEPTEMBER 12 HEILUNGKIANG BROADCAST DESCRIBED ITS LITERARY REVOLUTION IN GENERAL AS HAVING ACHIEVED "CONSIDERABLE SUCCESSES."

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PAGE 02 HONG K 10311 181436Z

IN CONTRAST TO THESE CLAIMS OF SUCCESS, THE SELF-ADMISSION OF

FAILURE IN CANTON IS NOTABLE. IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT IS BEHIND
THIS SELF-CRITICISM OF CANTONESE OPERA, BUT CONCEIVABLY, AT A
TIME WHEN THE CENTER IS TRYING TO DAMP DOWN THE INTERNAL
POLITICAL MOVEMENT, LOCAL CADRES MAY BE SEARCHING FOR ISSUES TO
ENLIVEN THE MOVEMENT IN KWANGTUNG.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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